KPFA News transcribed from tape 17 Jun 71

Excerpt from story on publication by NYTimes of secret Pentagon study of the Vietnam war:*

[Maxwell Taylor, who was the United States ambassador to South Vietnam in 1964 and 1965] was interviewed by Walter Cronkite on the CBS Evening News on Wednesday [16 Jun]. He said that the disclosure of the secret documents was "laying a foundation for bad history." Mr. Taylor was asked about "the people's right to know."

He replied, "I don't believe in that as a general principle. You have to talk about cases. What is a citizen going to do after reading these documents that he wouldn't have done otherwise? A citizen should know those things he needs to know to be a good citizen and discharge his functions, but not to get into secrets which simply damage his government and indirectly damage the citizen himself."

*Publication of first in series, 13 Jun 71.